Patent Claims

- 1. Method for preventing the falsification of access cards containing plain text information that identifies the type of authorization, whereby the plain text information is encoded by applying a key and the resulting code is introduced onto the access card.
- 2. Method pursuant to claim 1, characterized in that the code is applied with an imprinting process.
- 3. Method pursuant to one of the previous claims, characterized in that the code is made machine-readable.
- 4. Method pursuant to one of the previous claims, characterized in that the code can be converted back into plain text information by using the key.
- 5. Method pursuant to one of the previous claims, characterized in that the code can be reproduced.
- 6. Method pursuant to one of the previous claims, characterized in that, with the help of a computer the agreement of the plain text information with the code can be checked a key stored in the computer.
- 7. Method pursuant to claim 6, characterized in that the respectively different keys are selected as a function of features of the respective access card.
- 8. Method according to claim 6 or claim 7, characterized in that a secret key is used.
- 9. Identification card with plain text information identifying the type of authorization, characterized in that it contains a code that can be determined from the plain text

information by using a key.

- 10. Identification card pursuant to claim 9, characterized in that it contains an imprinted code.
- 11. Identification card pursuant to one of the claims 9 or 10, characterized in that it contains a machine-readable code.